

May 17, 2010

Hello,

After thoughtful consideration, Ecology has decided to cancel the May 24 meeting of the MTCA/SMS Advisory Group. We appreciate everyone's participation, and our goal is to use your time most effectively. For this reason we decided to focus on the input we have received to date, so that our discussions at the next meeting can be maximally productive.

You will recall that I sent "homework" to advisory group members. (Email dated April 29, 2010.) The homework asked you to think about:

- 1) Fish consumption rates
- 2) Sediment hot spots and bay-wide approaches
- 3) The definition of "regional background"
- 4) Getting to final cleanup given "area background"
- 5) Proposed reorganization of the groundwater and soil cleanup standards sections of the MTCA rule

We are continuing to look at the numerous technical, science, policy and implementation questions related to these issues. If you have not done so already, please provide your input on the homework topics to Ecology before May 31; this will be most appreciated.

In addition, we're processing feedback on lead cleanup levels and children's increased susceptibility to chemical carcinogens. Also, we are working on – but are not yet ready for discussion on – establishing points of compliance for contaminated groundwater discharging to surface water, and updated freshwater sediment standards.

The next meeting will be June 21, 2010. Your continued involvement is enormously important (thank you) and the input from the last meeting is helping greatly as we sort through policy objectives. Over the next two weeks I will be working to ensure that our June meeting is focused and offers opportunity for robust discussions. Stay tuned.

Please note:

The July meeting of the MTCA/SMS Advisory Group has been changed from July 12 to July 26. The Department of Ecology (and other state agencies) will be closed July 12 by direction of the Governor.

Regards,

Martha Hankins
Toxics Cleanup Program
Washington State Department of Ecology

360.407.6864
martha.hankins@ecy.wa.gov